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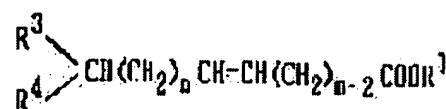
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(54) PRODUCTION OF BRANCHED FATTY ACIDS

(57)Abstract:

PURPOSE: To obtain the subject compound useful as a blend ingredient of hair cosmetics and an antimicrobial agent, a pharmaceutical agent, etc., using a readily available raw material by subjecting ω -phosphonium fatty acid ester to Wittig reaction with an aldehyde.

CONSTITUTION: A ω -phosphonium fatty acid ester expressed by formula I [R1 is 1-6C alkyl or alkenyl; R2 is hydrocarbon; X is halogen; (m) is 5-16] and prepared by reacting a ω -halofatty acid ester with a phosphine compound is dissolved in N,N-dimethylformamide and sodium methoxide is added to the solution and the mixture is stirred at ambient temperature for 20min and a compound expressed by formula II [R3 and R4 are methyl or ethyl; (n) is 0 or 1] (e.g. 2-methylbutyl aldehyde) is added to the reactional product and made to react with the reactional product at ambient temperature for 3hr to provide the objective branched fatty acids expressed by formula III (e.g. 13-methyl-11-pentadecenoic acid methyl ester) and useful as a blend ingredient of hair cosmetics, antimicrobial agent, therapeutic acid, etc.



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